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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Files

DATE: 16 July 1958

FROM :

[Redacted]

SUBJECT:

(Trip Report, RD-122, [Redacted] on 15 Jul 58)

1. On 15 July, a visit was made to [Redacted] to monitor the progress of RD-122, Task Order 1, covering the development of the Automatic AS-3. Participating in these discussions were:

[Redacted]

2. The primary purpose of the trip was to observe final testing and take delivery of the initial AS-3 prototype due on 1 July 1958. The unit was not ready for delivery, however, since several electrical and mechanical malfunctions, mostly minor, have yet to be remedied. [Redacted] had not begun environmental and performance testing of the almost-completed prototype, and it was obvious that delivery could not be made for another week or two.

3. The most serious shortcoming of the prototype is its inability to key properly at 300 wpm. The waveforms of keyer and transmitter outputs were observed on an ink recorder and it was noted that although the keyer put out fairly good Morse, the transmitter would not follow dots. [Redacted] said that the ink recorder had been set up only a few days ago and he has had little opportunity to trouble-shoot this keying difficulty. The keyer output can be improved, he feels, by adjusting the mechanical drive of the tape cartridge. The transmitter is losing dots because of improper keying circuit time constants, according to [Redacted] who says that tests on an earlier prototype showed it could be keyed at 500 wpm.

DOC	15	REV DATE	19 MAR 1980	BY	064540
ORIG COMP	033	OPI	56	TYPE	02
ORIG CLASS	5	PAGES	2	REV CLASS	C
JUST	22	NEXT REV	2010	AUTH:	HR 78-2

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4. [] agreed the unit could not be delivered in its present condition and promised that every effort would be made to correct the difficulties as quickly as possible. He was told that we must have the unit no later than 1 August, when [] begins a two-week plant-wide vacation. [] intimated that there would be no vacation for the people on this project until the prototype had been delivered. [] plans to hand-carry the prototype to Washington and remain at the Lab for the first phase of the testing.

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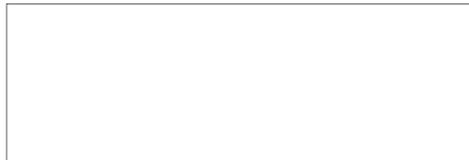
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5. A list of a dozen or so minor items was drawn up and given to [] with the request that they be taken care of prior to delivery. Among these are the preparation of written operating instructions and test data, repair of sticky controls, calibration scales for coils, etc. [] reviewed the test specification section by section with [] to coordinate testing procedures, and the latter agreed to furnish dummy loads for 50, 75, 150, 300, 600, and 1200 ohms, although he is not sure he can fabricate a flat load at the two highest impedances.

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